

Solving rural unemployment through handicraft

2847. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the schemes for solving unemployment among the villagers who are adept in handicrafts;
- (b) the existing schemes in regard to improvement of handicrafts in villages; and
- (c) the action proposed to be taken to solve rural unemployment by encouraging handicrafts in the villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The schemes of the Government to solve unemployment among the villages who are adept in handicraft include training scheme through Central/State Corporations/Apex Societies/Cooperatives/Voluntary Organisations in crafts other than Carpet (Training Scheme 'A'), Apprenticeship Training Scheme *C, training for trainers and master craftsperson; training through other organisation (Scheme ⁴B') carpet weaving; setting up of Craft Development Centers/Common Facility Centers and exhibition.

- (b) The existing scheme to improve handicraft in the country including in villages are training; marketing support; design development; exhibition and publicity; workshed-cum-housing; group insurance and health package.
- (c) The action proposed to be taken to solve rural employment by encouraging handicraft in the villages include; strengthening of existing schemes of the Government and identifying Craft Cluster with a view to make them self sustainable for integrated craft cluster development.